

2012 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

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21	1	A	1

Budget Action Title: Report to examine potential City support for a new Bruce Lee Action Museum

Councilmembers: Conlin; Harrell; Licata

Staff Analyst: Michael Jenkins

Date		Total	SB	BH	SC	TR	JG	NL	RC	TB	MO
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Statement of Legislative Intent:

The Council requests that the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs (OACA), in cooperation with the Office of Economic Development (OED), the Department of Finance and Administrative Services (FAS), Department of Neighborhoods (DON), and other appropriate City departments, develop a report to Council examining the extent to which City (and other public agency) resources are available to support a new museum to showcase Bruce Lee.

Bruce Lee (born Lee Jun-fan - 李振藩) was a notable martial arts expert and actor who lived in Seattle in the late 1950's through mid 1960's. Upon his death in 1973 his remains were interred at Lakeview Cemetery in North Capitol Hill, adjacent to Volunteer Park. In June 2011, plans for a proposed museum at his former Hong Kong residence, developed with support of his family, were abandoned. The family has now expressed interest in developing the museum in Seattle, preferably within the City's Chinatown-International District.

The Lee Family Foundation has developed a museum concept, known as the Bruce Lee Action Museum, which envisions a building housing a significant collection of Bruce Lee memorabilia that includes personal items, writings and objects of historical significance, a meeting room, a theatre and gift shop, a café, research library and a space for temporary exhibits. Council sees this as a unique opportunity for the City, one that could provide both a new cultural facility showcasing a figure in Seattle's recent history, as well as a means for providing economic development opportunities for the Chinatown-International District.

Once a viable plan has been brought forward for the Bruce Lee Action Museum by the Lee Family Foundation, the Council requests that a report be prepared that analyzes the following items:

1. Suitable locations for the museum that are owned by the City, or other public agency, and that could be used to locate such a stand- alone or mixed use facility, taking into account:

- Site availability
- Proximity to other cultural facilities
- Ease of access to the transportation network
- Location in relationship to the Chinatown-International District

2. If the City or public agency does not own a suitable piece of property to house such a facility, support that could be provided by the City in assisting with private property acquisition.

3. Public and private funding strategies and sources that could provide short and long-term capital, operations and maintenance funding.

4. The direct and indirect economic impact that such a facility could have on its surrounding community, in the form of:

- Job creation
- Increased access to cultural facilities

Economic impacts on surrounding businesses.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Housing, Human Services, Health, & Culture

Date Due to Council: August 1, 2012